# OFFICE OF THE HEARING EXAMINER KING COUNTY, WASHINGTON

400 Yesler Way, Suite 240 Seattle, Washington 98104 Telephone (206) 477-0860 Facsimile (206) 296-0198 hearingexaminer@kingcounty.gov

## NOTICE OF PRE-HEARING CONFERENCE

SUBJECT: Proposed ordinance no. **2015-0170** 

# MAPLE VALLEY REZONE

Location: Parcel no. 2022069011

SE 248th Street, between 196th Avenue SE, and SR-18

Matter Metropolitan King County Council

Referred staff contact Erin Auzins

By: King County Courthouse Room 1200

516 Third Avenue Seattle, WA 98104

Telephone: (206) 477-0687

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Property Mark Cramer

Owner: represented by Mark Cramer

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Telephone: (425) 890-0275 Email: markc@sfinv.net

## Overview

This matter involves Proposed Ordinance 2015-0170, which if adopted would rezone parcel 022069011 (and any immediately abutting property zoned "Industrial") from "Industrial" to "Rural Area." The King County Council referred the ordinance to the Hearing Examiner's Office to conduct a quasi-judicial hearing on the ordinance and then to issue a recommendation. Via Motion 14347, the Council provided additional direction to the Examiner. Neither the ordinance nor the hearing process will directly tackle the pending commercial site development application for this parcel. Any issues regarding that application would need to be addressed in another forum. This notice sets a *pre*-hearing conference and provides important information and deadlines.

# **Pre-Hearing Conference**

The Examiner will conduct a pre-hearing conference on Thursday, June 18, 2015, at 1:30 p.m., in the DPER Snoqualmie Conference Room, 35030 SE Douglas Street, Snoqualmie. The pre-hearing conference will:

- identify and clarify the issues for hearing;
- consider the need for any discovery;
- schedule any pre-hearing deadlines;
- identify parties and the witnesses the parties intend to call at the hearing;
- determine the parameters for the hearing; and
- address other procedural matters that will facilitate the efficient conduct of the hearing.

In terms of identifying and clarifying the issues for hearing, Motion 14347 identifies issues for the examiner to consider regarding this potential rezone. Additional code sections that might be relevant include KCC 20.24.180, which sets the general standard for examiner findings, and KCC 20.24.190, which sets specific examiner standards for rezones, including consistency with the King County Comprehensive Plan. Parties should come to the pre-hearing conference prepared with a <u>list</u> of Comprehensive Plan policies or other potentially applicable legal standards.

Following the pre-hearing conference, the Examiner will issue a pre-hearing order that will govern the conduct of the hearing.

## **Participation**

The *pre*-hearing conference is not the venue for providing testimony on the merits of Proposed Ordinance 2015-0170. The merits of the ordinance will be tackled at a July public hearing. (Next week, we expect the Clerk of the Council to send out notice regarding the actual public hearing.) There will be a period set aside at that public hearing for members of the public to offer testimony.

Persons whose property is likely to be directly affected by the result of the hearing, or whose participation would be in the public interest, may petition to "intervene" in the process. (Hearing Examiner Rule of Procedure X.A., available at

http://www.kingcounty.gov/property/HearingExaminer.aspx, describes the intervention process.) Petitions for intervention should be made by no later than the June 18 pre-hearing conference.

If a petition for intervention is granted, a petitioner becomes a "party" to the process. The Examiner will select someone to be the official party representative for purposes of filing and receiving documents and managing the intervenor's role in the hearing process. Prior to the prehearing conference, those desiring intervenor status should self-select a representative.

One factor that makes this case amenable to intervention is that without an intervenor, the proposed ordinance will have no official "proponent," no one to formally organize and present the case in favor of the proposed ordinance, leaving only the normal public testimony period. (Presumably, the property owner will organize and present the case in opposition to the proposed ordinance.) The Council is not the proponent. Instead, the Council has referred the matter to the

Examiner for review of the merits of the proposal, and after the Examiner issues his recommendation the Council will ultimately make the County's decision on the proposed ordinance, based on the record created during the Examiner's hearing.

In addition, any would-be intervenor should come to the June 18 pre-hearing conference prepared to address the items discussed above under "Pre-Hearing Conference," including a list of what Comprehensive Plan policies or other standards are potentially applicable.

DATED June 2, 2015.

David Spohr Hearing Examiner

If the Snoqualmie Valley School district announces a district-wide school closure on the date of hearing, the proceeding will be automatically postponed. (Visit <a href="www.schoolreport.org">www.schoolreport.org</a> or the district website for school closure information.) It will also be postponed if adverse weather conditions or similar area emergency prevent safe access to the hearing location, in which case we will make every reasonable effort to place case postponement notices and updates on the office website (<a href="www.kingcounty.gov/property/hearingexaminer">www.kingcounty.gov/property/hearingexaminer</a>) and voicemail ((206) 477-0860).

Once normal business operations resume, parties of record will be notified of the time and date of the rescheduled proceedings. Any other questions regarding postponements can be directed to the Hearing Examiner's Office by phone or email to <a href="mailto:hearingexaminer@kingcounty.gov">hearingexaminer@kingcounty.gov</a>.



Sign language and communication material in alternate formats can be arranged given sufficient notice to (206) 296-1000



DS/vsm

#### RULES OF PROCEDURE OF THE KING COUNTY HEARING EXAMINER

#### I. PRE-HEARING CONFERENCES

#### A. Purpose and Initiation

Pre-hearing conferences promote efficient case management by providing an informal process for early identification of issues and resolution of procedural matters in complex cases. Evidence generally will not be received at a pre-hearing conference, except when required in order for the examiner to rule on a motion. (Pre-marking and introduction of exhibits to which there is no objection may occur at the discretion of the examiner.)

The examiner, on motion of any party or upon his/her own motion, may convene a pre-hearing conference to:

- 1. Identify, clarify, limit or simplify issues.
- 2. Hear and consider pre-hearing motions.
- 3. Schedule hearings, identify parties and witnesses, determine the order of and limits upon testimony, obtain stipulations as to facts and law, identify and admit exhibits, order discovery and consider and act upon any other matter which may aid in the efficient disposition of the hearing.

#### B. Requests for Conference

A motion to convene a pre-hearing conference shall be made to the examiner as soon as the need for a conference is recognized by the moving party (at least 21 days prior to the scheduled hearing date), and shall state the reasons for the request, including any motions to be presented. For good cause stated in the motion, the examiner may consider a request that fails to meet the 21-day requirement.

For hearings authorized under KCC 20.24.080, a motion by any party for a pre-hearing conference shall be granted if timely. However, unless consented to by all parties or otherwise ordered for good cause by the examiner, no pre-hearing conference on an appeal can be convened later than 45 days after receipt of the statement of appeal by the hearing examiner's office.

## C. Proceedings at Conference

A party who has received timely notice of a pre-hearing conference shall identify at the conference any pre-hearing motions not previously made which he/she intends to make. Parties or interested persons may also file timely written pre-hearing motions for consideration at the pre-hearing conference. Failure to make or disclose a motion which was available to the party at the time of the conference may be grounds for its denial if subsequently made.

#### D. Pre-hearing Order

Following a pre-hearing conference, the examiner shall issue an order specifying all items determined at the conference. The order shall be binding upon all parties and interested persons who received timely notice of the conference.

(Effective March 31, 1995)

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## **CERTIFICATE OF SERVICE**

SUBJECT: Proposed ordinance no. **2015-0170** 

#### MAPLE VALLEY REZONE

I, Jonel Rabara, certify under penalty of perjury under the laws of the State of Washington that I transmitted the **NOTICE OF PRE-HEARING CONFERENCE** to those listed on the attached page as follows:

- MAILED to all County staff listed as parties of record/interested persons and primary parties with email addresses on record.
- acaused to be placed with the United States Postal Service, with sufficient postage, as FIRST CLASS MAIL in an envelope addressed to the non-County employee parties of record/interested persons at the addresses indicated on the list attached to the original Certificate of Service.

DATED June 2, 2015.

Jonel Rabara

Legislative Secretary

Jonel Rakain

#### All Parties of Record

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